

ELECTRICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING FEBRUARY 3, 2004 MINUTES

**Office of Housing, Buildings & Construction
Electrical Section
101 Sea Hero Road, Suite 100
Frankfort KY 40601-5405**

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Archer, James	Malone, Mary	Moore, Jonathan	Osborne, Gary
Pace, Chris	Shelton, Don	Shouse, Jerry	

MEMBERS IN ABSENT

Holthouser, Norman G.	Howard, Jan	Leake, Michael	Strange, Jim
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DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Bennett, Mike; Department of Housing Legal Counsel
Dempsey, Frank; Department of Housing Legal Counsel
Langford, Dennis; Department of Housing Commissioner
McMichael, Shawwna; Administrative Secretary, Hazardous Materials Section
Perkins, Billy; Chief Electrical Inspector

VISITORS IN ATTENDANCE

Unidentified Visitors signature; Independent Electrical Contractors (*IEC*)
Bowen, David; Bowen Inspections & Consulting (*Inspector #*)
Corrigan, Tom; Independent Electrical Contractors (*IEC*)
Seider, Debbie; Department for Technical Education
Sutton, Tommy; Department for Technical Education
Studer, Tom; Electrical Inspector (*2306-C*)
Tapp, Gary; State Senator
Trivette, Mel; Franklin County Inspector (*2374-C*)
Vernon, Doug; Kentucky Burglar & Fire Alarm Association Inc (*KBFA*)
Waugaman, Gary; Northern Kentucky Electrical Association (*NKEA*)

Meeting Called to Order

Don Shelton made a motion to call the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Gary Osborne seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

New Business – Commissioner Langford

Commissioner Langford apologized for having to leave the last Electrical Advisory Committee meeting after receiving a telephone call from the Cabinet Secretary. Commissioner Langford stated that Deputy Commissioner, Ken Meredith has resigned to work at the Episcopal Homes in Louisville. Clayton Bradley, Director of Administrative Services and State Fire Marshal, Dave Manley has retired. The Deputy Commissioner, Director of Administrative Services and State Fire Marshal position will not be filled at this time. Commissioner Langford asked that the Committee Members be patient with the Department in assisting them with problems and situations due to this being a busier time of year than normal. The Department has already presented their budget and has a hearing on Thursday, February 5, 2004 to discuss the budget with A&R.

The Department is putting together a legislature package. Mr. Osborne and Representative Mike Cherry have received copies of the legislature package for review. The legislature package has been filled with both houses of legislature. Commissioner Langford stated that the Committee Members may be needed to help explain the legislation package to the Legislators. There have been some issues that have been included in the legislation package – annual renewal in accordance with birth month and inactive status. Representative Cherry has requested that the Department/Committee have a lower fee for inactive licenses. The Department urges the Committee to reconsider having a lower fee for inactive license holders.

Commissioner Langford stated that he has meet with the Independent Electrical Contractors (*IEC*). Commissioner Langford stated that he would like to thank *IEC* for the invitation to meet with them to discuss some issues. Becky Patterson *of IEC* has sent Commissioner Langford an email inquiring some answers to specific questions. Commissioner Langford has asked Mr. Perkins to assist Ms. Patterson.

Mr. Pace inquired if the lower fees on inactive licenses would be for the initial application or renewal fees of inactive licenses. Legal Counsel suggested that the lower fees be for the renewal fees only. Mr. Pace stated that if the lower fees are for initial application fees, people will be taking advantage of the grandfathering. Mr. Pace inquired if the active fees are “set in stone”. Commissioner Langford answered no; the fees are set and approved by the Committee.

Approval of the Committee Minutes

Chairman Archer inquired if there was a motion to approve the last Committee meeting minutes, January 20, 2004. Mr. Perkins asked the Committee to thoroughly look over the minutes due to some of the motions being incomplete.

Mr. Osborne stated that page 6 on the bottom indicated that he made a motion. Mr. Osborne stated that he did not make the motion because he generally does not make a motion on subjects that he is unsure about.

Mr. Perkins sated that on page 6 “...tripods or private property would have to be inspected” should be changed to “...temporary service or private property would have to be inspected”. Mr. Osborne made a motion to change “Mr. Osborne made a motion to exempt” be changed to ““Mr. Osborne made a motion to” and delete the sentence “Mr. Perkins stated that tripods or private property would have to be inspected”. Mr. Pace seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Moore made a motion to change “building code” to “national electric code” on line 4 on page 3. Mr. Pace seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Ms. Malone inquired what CEW was on page 5. Mr. Osborne stated that it was suppose to be CEU. Ms. Malone made a motion to change “...allow continuing education Instructors credit for teaching their education courses/courses” on page 5 to “..not allow continuing education Instructors credit for teaching their education courses/courses”. Mr. Osborne seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Perkins stated that the continuing education providers reviewed did not indicate what they were applying for in the minutes. Mr. Pace stated that Morehead State University applied for Master Electrician and Electrician continuing education approval, *IBEW* was applying for

approval for instructor – Robert J. Bishop, and Bobby Hamilton of South Kentucky RECC was applying for Master Electrician and Electrician continuing education approval.

Chairman Archer made a motion to strike the sentence “Chairman Archer asked Ms. Seider to submit their PD and it will count as their CEW.” on page 5. Mr. Pace seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Moore made a motion to strike Mr. Strange as making motions and add Mr. Strange to the list of absent Committee Members. Mr. Pace seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Pace made a motion to accept the minutes with the amendments. Mr. Moore seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Additional Hiring

Mr. Perkins stated that the Department thought they had someone who knew how to do the minutes attend the last meeting. However, the minutes were not detailed as previous meetings. Legal Counsel Dempsey told Shawna McMichael that it is a great feeling to feel needed. Commissioner Langford stated that he has asked for Mr. Perkins’ secretary position to be filled. Mr. Osborne asked if Robin McQuery’s position will be reposted. Commissioner Langford answered not at the present time. Commissioner Langford stated the Department has 5 Electrical Inspectors positions posted through February 3, 2004. The Inspectors positions posted are in McCracken, Floyd, Rowan, Campbell and Jefferson Counties.

ID Card

The proof for the electrical licensing ID cards have been reviewed and approved. Hopefully, the proofs will be arriving at the end of the month. The Department posted the printing and was told to use the Department of Finance print shop, which was unable to print the ID cards. The Department was then told to repost the printing, which was held up due to budget. However, the Department’s budget was in good standings. The first printed licenses should be sent out the first of March 2004.

Commissioner Langford stated that there is a problem with the temporary ID cards that are printed from the internet. The internet ID cards are printing an expiration date of 2005 without stating that the documentation for the pending licenses must be in before grandfathering is over (July 15, 2004).

Senator Gary Tapp inquired if the Department would accept applications for grandfathering by the postmark or received date of July 15, 2004. Legal Counsel Dempsey answered postmark of July 15, 2004. Commissioner Langford stated that he was sure that issue was going to come up. The Committee would have to review individual’s wants to appeal their applications being turned down due to the postmark.

Mary Malone stated that the fee schedule for licenses is only valid until February 2004. Mr. Perkins stated that the Department has updated the fee schedule, which is posted on the website and being mailed out to individuals.

Additional Help

Commissioner Langford stated that he has requested the Secretary Cabinet, LaJuanna S. Wilcher, to see if there are 2 dot net code writers employed in the Cabinet to help Mr. He, who is the IT Supervisor. The Electrical and Plumbing license programs were designed using *asp*. Dot net programs are suppose to be more secure and dependable. The 2 dot net code writers would help finish the electrical and plumbing programs. Elevators and boilers currently work on the *GOT* mainframe. The Department would like to get all Sections and Divisions within the Department to be on the server, which is cheaper and can be updated by the Department IT staff.

Low Voltage Exemption

Legal Counsel Dempsey stated that he has taken Mr. Moore's motion from the last meeting on low voltage and revised the wording into legal terms. Legal Counsel Dempsey stated that he was not trying to change the wording or substance of the motion. Mr. Moore made a motion to approve Legal Counsel Dempsey's revision of motion to read *"Low voltage, power-limited installations for control or coordination of interconnected devices from a power source by a Class 2 or Class 3 transformer are recognized not to provide heat, light or power and therefore persons installing them are not acting as electrical contractors, master electricians or electricians as defined in KRS 227A.010 (5), (6) and (7). Such persons are therefore not required to be licensed by KRS Chapter 227A."*, which will be the Committee's policy.

Legal Counsel Dempsey stated that he has individuals review the language and have expressed concern with the language being Committee policy. Legal Counsel Dempsey stated that the individuals suggested that the language on low voltage be included in a House Bill or regulation. Legal Counsel Dempsey stated that the language could not be included in a regulation. Legal Counsel Dempsey believes that the language could be included in a statute. The Committee has to the final decision of whether the language is included in a House Bill or remains as Committee policy. Legal Counsel Dempsey stated that if the Committee Members are replaced once their terms are expired the policy can be reversed. Mr. Moore inquired if the language could be included in the "housekeeping bill". Legal Counsel Dempsey stated that the more information included in the "housekeeping bill" the less likely it would fail. Mr. Pace inquired if it was a possibility that the language could be included in the "housekeeping bill". Legal Counsel Dempsey answered yes. Mr. Pace inquired how much information is included in the "housekeeping bill". Legal Counsel Dempsey stated that the "housekeeping bill" includes the renewals are renewed according to birth month, inactive status, pending status, clarifying that only Contractors can pull permits, Master Electricians can only work for one Contractor. Chairman Archer inquired what a pending status is. Legal Counsel Dempsey stated that individuals can apply for an electrical license and remain working on a pending license until their documentation is processed and approved. Legal Counsel Dempsey stated that Julie Fritz has raised a question on having the pending licenses until grandfathering is over, July 15, 2004, and if the "housekeeping bill" the bill will take effect June 1, 2004. Ms. Fritz's felt that having pending licenses included in the bill for a little over a month is "a little odd". Legal Counsel Dempsey stated that the Department needs determination if the pending licenses are Committee policy.

Senator Tapp inquired if the HVAC and plumbing industry are in agreement with the low voltage language. Senator Tapp stated that if the HVAC and plumbing industry do not agree with the language the bill will not get passed. Mr. Pace stated that the language satisfied the HVAC industry. Mr. Osborne suggested that the language be included in the "housekeeping bill". Mr. Osborne stated that he would like to see a low voltage certification. Mr. Osborne stated that there is no guarantee that the individuals doing low voltage wiring is not qualified. Mr. Osborne stated that low voltage certification should be under the electrical licensing.

Mr. Vernon stated that he would like the low voltage language be included in the "housekeeping bill" because it is something that is concrete. Mr. Vernon stated that if the low voltage included in the "housekeeping bill" would be in "concrete" and lays the ground work for low voltage certification. Mr. Vernon stated that continuing education hours should also be included in the low voltage certification. Mr. Osborne stated that individuals are upset with continuing education due to the costs of continuing education classes. Mr. Osborne stated that there are Contractors out there that does not agree with continuing education. There is an *IBEW* in Western Kentucky that does not agree.

Legal Counsel Dempsey stated the Committee has not heard any objection on Class 2 and 3 low voltage. The Committee has not heard from the burglar alarm and plumbing industry except for one individual

concerned with their well pumps. Mr. Pace stated that the Committee could not make everyone happy. Legal Counsel Dempsey stated that there are concerns with the low voltage language being in Committee policy. Legal Counsel Dempsey stated that he understands the concerns that the HVAC industry has and wishes that the Committee has another way to assure the industry. Legal Counsel Dempsey agreed with Mr. Osborne on having a low voltage certification. Legal Counsel Dempsey stated that the language being included in the “housekeeping bill” would not jeopardize low voltage certification. Mr. Vernon stated that low voltage certification should be included under the Electrical Advisory Committee. Mr. Vernon stated that if the low voltage certification is not under the Committee the low voltage certification will not work. Senator Tapp stated that the low voltage certification could be placed under the Electrical Advisory Committee’s guidance. Mr. Osborne asked if there was a low voltage certification if the certification program could be placed under the Electrical Advisory Committee’s supervision/guidance. Commissioner Langford answered yes, if the Committee is appointed. Commissioner Langford stated that he has been asked by a lobbyist if an electrical bill was going to be filed. Commissioner Langford stated that he informed the lobbyist that a “housekeeping” electrical bill will be filed. Commissioner Langford stated that “our doors are always open for discussion” with other industries regarding electrical issues.

Mr. Vernon stated that he attended the January 7, 2004 electrical meeting and discussed low voltage and last meeting, January 20, 2004, the Committee made a motion on low voltage. Mr. Vernon stated that his association (Kentucky Burglar & Fire Alarm Association – *KBFEA*) read the meeting minutes and wants to ensure the minutes are approved. Mr. Vernon stated that he believes if anyone who objects to the low voltage exemption the individual may not know what they are doing in the industry. Legal Counsel Dempsey stated that the wording on the low voltage exemption at the January 20, 2004 meeting was broader.

Mr. Osborne stated that he would like to see a low voltage certification, which shows or proves individuals have qualifications to perform the work. Mr. Vernon stated that the burglar alarm individuals and companies are required to pass a security clearance. Mr. Vernon stated that out of state Contractors are getting Kentucky jobs because they have security clearance required by their state. Kentucky does not have a burglar alarm certification or license, which requires an individual to pass a security clearance. Senator Tapp stated that Homeland Security issues are getting bigger each year. Mr. Vernon stated that the industry will get larger by a million each year.

Mr. Moore made a motion to accept Legal Counsel Dempsey’s wording until such time as there is a bill with the wording included. *Legal Counsel Dempsey’s wording – “Low voltage, power-limited installations for control or coordination of interconnected devices separated from a power source by a Class 2 or Class 3 transformer are recognized not to provide heat, light or power and therefore persons installing them are not acting as electrical contractors, master electricians or electricians as defined in KRS 227A.010 (5), (6) and (7). Such persons are therefore not required to be licensed by KRS Chapter 227A.”* Mr. Pace seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Chairman Archer inquired if the wording could be included in the “housekeeping” bill. Chairman Archer further stated that if the bill does not look like it will be passed the low voltage exemption would be removed from the bill.

Mr. Vernon stated that *KBFEA* would like to see a licensing program for burglar alarm companies and individuals. Senator Tapp inquired if Mr. Vernon has discussed this issue with Senator Denton. Mr. Vernon answered no. Mr. Vernon explained that the *KBFEA* had a Representative who was backing a licensing program. However, the Representative backed out. Senator Tapp stated that Senator Denton had done some research with the Attorney General’s Office on burglar and fire alarm complaints. Mr. Vernon stated that the Attorney General’s Office only receives complaints when customers are “ripped off”. According to Mr. Vernon, the Attorney General’s Office has received 7 to 8 complaints in the last 15

years. The Better Business Bureau (*BBB*) receives complaints but does not have any enforcement. Kentucky is 1 of the last 50 states that do not require low voltage certification. Mr. Vernon stated that the Attorney General's Office has not taken 7 to 8 people to court in the last 15 years.

Commissioner Langford asked Mr. Vernon if he was prepared to get a bill introduced to legislation. Mr. Vernon stated that they would introduce a bill if they have the support of legislatures. Commissioner Langford stated that if they introduce a bill this language could be included in the bill. Senator Tapp stated that with his years of experience in legislature it would be "slim" in getting the bill passed in this legislation session. Senator Tapp stated that legislators have pushed the electrical bill around many hours. Senator Tapp informed Mr. Vernon if he planned on introducing a bill to legislation he would need support of legislators. Senator Tapp stated that if the legislators push the bill without rural legislators support the bill will never get passed.

Mr. Vernon stated that he would try to introduce a bill during the next legislation session. Commissioner Langford inquired if Mr. Vernon was also going to present continuing education in his bill. Senator Tapp believes that the language for continuing education be included in the bill. Mr. Vernon inquired if the Department had an objection to a low voltage certification. Mr. Pace answered not at all, the Committee would actual prefer it.

Senator Tapp stated that the low voltage exemption would not pass if there was any objection for the HVAC industry. Senator Tapp inquired if there was any objection in Western Kentucky. Mr. Osborne stated that JR Gray, who wants low voltage certification, is stirring up in Western Kentucky. Senator Tapp asked Mr. Osborne if he could relay to Mr. Gray that in the future there will be a low voltage certification or license. Mr. Osborne stated that he would talk with Mr. Gray. Mr. Vernon asked Mr. Osborne to schedule an appointment with Mr. Gray and allow him to attend the meeting as well. Senator Tapp stated that the Senate has no problem with the low voltage exemption. However, the problem will be the House. Legal Counsel Dempsey stated that low voltage certification could be started by the low voltage exemption language. Legal Counsel Dempsey stated that the low voltage exemption is saying that an electrical licenses is not required if you have a boiler, plumbing or HVAC license. Legal Counsel Dempsey stated that the exemption is more specific than the January 20, 2004 low voltage exemption. However, not as specific as House Bill 115. Senator Tapp stated that he will inform the Representatives if the low voltage exemption is not passed, the low voltage exemption will be included in the Committee policy. Senator Tapp stated that if the Committee Members stay for 15 years there would be no problem leaving the low voltage exemption as Committee policy.

Chairman Archer inquired if there was any further discussion on the motion and second for the low voltage exemption remaining Committee policy. All in favor with the exception of Mr. Osborne, who is abstaining. Motion carried.

Mr. Moore made a motion to take a 5 minute break at 10:05 am. Mr. Osborne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Osborne made a motion to reconvene the meeting at 10:18 am. Mr. Pace seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Refund Policy

Legal Counsel Dempsey stated that the Committee has determined that there are no refunds to be issued. Legal Counsel Dempsey stated that the Department did not anticipate refunds. However, the Department's intent was not refund money if individuals was not qualified to receive the license that they applied for. The Department has received requests for refunds due to applicant deaths. Legal Counsel Dempsey stated that the Department wants to have a recommendation from the Committee. Mr. Pace

inquired if the Committee could take the situations on a case-to-case basis. Ms. Malone stated that this is the same situation as a driver's license. Ms. Malone stated that refunds are not issued if an individual dies during the year their license is renewed. Legal Counsel Dempsey stated that this is a different situation because driver's license fees are \$12-\$15 and electrical licenses are \$200-\$500. Mr. Pace believes that refunds should be handled on a case-to-case basis.

Mr. Moore inquired how the Committee could set a policy for extreme circumstances. Legal Counsel Dempsey inquired if we need to change requirement. Mr. Pace inquired how many people the refund policy will effect. Commissioner Langford stated that 3 individuals have already requested refunds.

Mr. Perkins stated that he has already received a telephone call from a son and widow requesting a refund. Mr. Moore asked Mr. Perkins what his feeling was on this topic. Mr. Perkins stated that he did not want to answer Mr. Moore's question. Mr. Shouse inquired if it was a problem for the Department to issue refunds. Commissioner Langford answered no, as long as the Department has the staff. Commissioner Langford asked the Committee to think of their widow in this type of situation.

Mr. Pace made a motion to allow the Department to deal refund license fees prorated by the month to deceased license holders. Mr. Osborne seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Moore made a motion to amend the motion to "to allow the Department to deal refund license fees prorated by the month to deceased license holders and in other extreme cases." Mr. Shouse seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Pre-Licensing Programs (Apprenticeship Programs)

Legal Counsel Dempsey stated that *HBA* has a pre-licensing standard program. Legal Counsel Dempsey stated that he has been asked about pre-licensing programs. Legal Counsel Dempsey stated that June and July are on the horizon. Therefore, the pre-licensing programs standards and continuing education for the pre-licensing programs need to be discussed.

Mr. Pace inquired if all pre-licensing programs are registered with the state. Legal Counsel Dempsey stated that he was unsure. Mr. Osborne made a motion to accept all state registered pre-licensing programs. Mr. Osborne stated that it would be nice to discuss this issue with Commissioner Langford, who came from the Labor Cabinet. Ms. Malone inquired if the Committee could get a list of state recognized programs with the criteria to be approved. Legal Counsel Dempsey stated that Legal Counsel Bennett would do the research for the Committee. Mr. Osborne stated that the Committee needs to look at the minimum requirements to be approved programs. Mr. Osborne stated that you could receive a Master Electricians license with proof 6 years of hands on experience or 4 years of experience and 2 years of continuing education. Mr. Pace stated that the 4 years of experience and 2 years of continuing education was only during the grandfathering period. Ms. Malone stated that the 4 years of experience and 2 years of continuing education was during and after the grandfathering period. Mr. Perkins stated that in Ashland there are non-union pre-licensing programs. Mr. Perkins inquired if those programs are registered with the state. Mr. Moore inquired if vocational or technical schools have programs. Mr. Osborne answered yes. Mr. Moore inquired if the Committee could accept their programs. Mr. Perkins stated that individuals have been very disappointed when they call the Department and are told the vocational school education is not approved.

Tom Studer stated that he has a problem with vocational or technical education. Mr. Studer stated that the education depends on the technical teacher whether they know the subject outside of the classroom that they are teaching. Mr. Pace stated that an individual is still required to pass the Experior test regardless of having vocational or technical education.

Mr. Vernon stated that he has seen Morehead State University get approved as continuing education and Bowling Green Technical College get turned down. Legal Counsel Dempsey stated that the pre-licensing programs will be handled like continuing education. Mr. Moore inquired if there was an easier standard to approve pre-licensing programs. Mr. Moore inquired if anyone certified the electrical programs. Debbie Seider of Department of Technical Education stated that *KCTCS* is approved by secondary education college of schools. However, Ms. Seider is unsure if each technical school is approved but all *KCTCS*'s are approved. Tommy Sutton of Department of Technical Education stated that post secondary schools are not approved. Mr. Moore stated that training courses are defined on page 7 and 8 as "A training course on electrical work, acceptable to the department...". Mr. Pace stated that it is not defined in the House Bill. Mr. Pace stated that apprenticeship programs are registered with the state are approved. Commissioner Langford stated the Committee determined when pre-licensing programs would be reviewed when the Committee comes to the subject.

Mr. Moore inquired if the Committee could develop standards for the pre-licensing programs. Commissioner Langford answered if the Committee wants the Department to review and approve the pre-licensing programs. Commissioner Langford stated that each Board is different and some topics the Board needs to review. In some cases, the Department does not have the expertise on some subjects to make a determination such as low voltage. Mr. Perkins inquired if anyone regulates apprenticeship programs. Commissioner Langford answered yes, if the organization is registered with the state. The Labor Cabinet Board has to review and approve the programs. Ms. Malone stated that the Committee would need a copy of the Labor Cabinet's standards and guidelines on these programs. Commissioner Langford stated that the registered programs are "policed". Mr. Osborne stated that *IBEW*, *IEC*, *AGC*, *ABC* and *NECA* have to meet the Department of Labor's standards. Mr. Pace stated that rural areas don't have state registered programs. Commissioner Langford stated that *KCTCS* has some registered programs.

Mr. Osborne asked Mr. Shouse where he would send his employees to get their 2 years of education. Mr. Shouse stated that he would send his employees to an area vocational school. Mr. Osborne stated that in Western Kentucky, *KCTCS* has good programs. Mr. Osborne stated that every *KCTCS* location has an electrical program. Mr. Sutton stated that not all *KCTCS* locations have an electrical program. Mr. Vernon stated that he could study the *NEC* codebook, take a test and still not be qualified to do electrical work. Mr. Pace stated that Mr. Vernon would still be required to have the electrical work experience in accordance with the law. Mr. Osborne stated that there is a minimum of 144 classroom hours per year and 4,000 training hours required. Mr. Moore asked the Department to have the Department of Labor's standards and have the Department's draft of procedures of pre-licensing programs.

Mr. Bennett inquired what is needed from him. Commissioner Langford asked Mr. Bennett to contact Jeff Wiley with the Department of Labor and get a copy of their standards on pre-licensing programs. Commissioner Langford stated that days to get continuing education in rural areas are here. Mr. Perkins inquired if the Department will be tracking the pre-licensing hours on individuals. Commissioner Langford answered no; it is the providers responsibility to send in the pre-licensing hours. Mr. Moore stated that the Department would be keeping a list of all approved pre-licensing programs. Ms. Malone inquired if there was a difference with post secondary programs and how does the Committee want to handle these programs. Mr. Sutton stated the Department of Technical College has classes and if the tests are passed the individual receives credit for the courses. Chairman Archer asked if the Committee would like to table the subject until the guidelines are received at the next meeting. Mr. Moore agreed with Chairman Archer to table the subject.

Electrical Inspector Review – Wayne A. Miracle

Mr. Perkins stated that Wayne Miracle talked with him last week regarding his certification. Mr. Perkins stated that he has reviewed Mr. Miracle's application and documentation and has determined that Mr. Miracle is "very sharp". Mr. Osborne inquired if Mr. Perkins is recommended that Mr. Miracle's application be approved. Mr. Perkins answered yes. Mr. Perkins stated that Mr. Miracle meets all the criteria and has completed an apprenticeship program.

Mr. Osborne made a motion to approve Mr. Miracle as a 2B Electrical General Inspector upon completion on passing the test. Mr. Pace seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Continuing Education Review – Department of Technical Education

Mr. Sutton stated that he has submitted a resume for each instructor and list of classes the instructor will be teaching. Mr. Sutton stated that during the January 20, 2004 meeting, Department of Technical Education was approved as a Contractor, Master Electrician and Electrician continuing education provider.

Mr. Perkins stated that he was unsure about Lee Wright being approved as an instructor. Mr. Moore stated that he attended Mr. Wright's classes, which are mostly residential courses. Mr. Perkins stated that Gary L. Durham is listed as having some electronic experience. Mr. Sutton stated that the Department of Technical Education use to teach electronics with electrical courses. However, the two topics have been separated. Mr. Sutton stated that Stephen D. Slone is a new instructor. Mr. Perkins stated that Mr. Slone's experience is not broke down into years of experience in HVAC and electrical. Mr. Sutton stated that he would resubmit Mr. Slone's resume with the experience broke down. Mr. Perkins stated that HVAC controls and mining are exempt from licensing and therefore would not be approved as experience. Mr. Bowen asked if surface mining is also exempt. Mr. Perkins answered yes.

Mr. Moore made a motion to approve the Department of Technical Education's classes and instructors except for Stephen D. Slone. Mr. Pace seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Continuing Education Review – David Bowen

Mr. Bowen stated he has been doing electrical inspections since 1982. In 2001, the Committee approved Mr. Bowen as an Electrical Inspector continuing education provider. Mr. Bowen stated that his intention today was to get the classes he teaches for Electrical Inspectors approved for Master Electrician and Contractor. Mr. Pace sated that Contractor continuing education is business classes only. Mr. Pace stated that Mr. Bowen probably wants his classes approved for Master Electrician and Electrician. Mr. Bowen answered yes. Mr. Bowen stated that he will be doing accounting, OSHA safety and tied off procedures for Contractors. Mr. Moore stated that those classes/courses are not in the information that he submitted. Mr. Bowen answered yes, but he would be sending the information to the Department at a later date.

Mr. Osborne made a motion to approve David Bowen as a Master Electrician and Electrician continuing education provider. Mr. Moore seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

Mel Trivette stated that some electricians have asked him how many hours of continuing education is required. Mr. Osborne stated 6 hours of continuing education per license.

Tom Corrigan stated that the Committee has already reviewed this subject but needs to review the subject once again. Mr. Corrigan stated that the Contractors exam was combined with the Journeyman exam. Ms. Malone stated the Contractor exam was combined with the Master exam not Journeyman. Mr. Corrigan inquired if the Contractor test would be accepted. Mr. Perkins answered no; there was a letter that was mailed out stating the Contractors would have to take the newly approved exam if the individual does not have the required Contractor experience.

Grounding electrode

Chairman Archer stated that Mike Leake submitted a question to the Department regarding grounding electrodes. Mr. Perkins stated that the meter base is not the first means of disconnect. Mr. Studer stated that the *NEC* requires it to be bonded. Chairman Archer stated that the meter base is not accessible. Mr. Perkins stated that most utility companies do not want individuals in their meter bases. Mr. Studer stated that Northern Kentucky use to have a utility company that checked the meter bases. Mr. Perkins stated that the meter base is no longer accessible once the utility/power company places their seal on the meter base. Mr. Perkins stated that if someone calls the Safety Department at the utility company, their employees will remove the seal. Mr. Perkins stated that the first means is the panel or disconnect. Dave of *IEC* stated that each utility company is different on bonding the meter base. Mr. Perkins stated that he has addressed this issue at *IAEI* meetings. Chairman Archer stated that the service agreement reverts back to the utility company. Mr. Corrigan stated that they are at main disconnect not in the meter base. Chairman Archer stated that Louisville is trying to get ruling for both Kentucky Utilities (*KU*) and Louisville Gas & Electric (*LG&E*).

Mr. Perkins stated that the meter base is not a form of disconnect. Ms. Malone stated that individuals take it into the meter base. Ms. Malone stated that Georgetown is mostly *KU*, which finds it acceptable to take it into the meter base. Owen County and Bluegrass Energy do it differently than *KU*. Ms. Malone stated that if *KU* issues a statement the Georgetown Inspectors will comply with their standards. Ms. Malone stated that there were 2 issues: is meter base form of disconnect? No and is load side to disconnect? Yes. Chairman Archer inquired if it accessible. Ms. Malone answered yes; the Electrician or utility company can certify it. However, an Electrical Inspector can not.

Mr. Corrigan stated that *LG&E* puts locks on their meter bases because people tamper with the locks. Therefore the meter bases are not accessible. Ms. Malone stated that Bluegrass Energy puts locks on their temporary services and give the area Electrical Inspector the key.

Mr. Perkins read Mr. Leake's letter. Mr. Osborne stated that you will have jobs turned down because this procedure has been done for years. Mr. Trivette stated that it must be accessible but not readily acceptable. Chairman Archer inquired if Mr. Trivette was considering this as not being acceptable. Mr. Perkins stated that the meter base is not acceptable.

Mr. Osborne stated that if this is included in the bill it can not be enforced. Chairman Archer stated that it still has to be inspected. Mr. Osborne stated that the purpose of the law is to have skilled people doing electrical work. Contractors are going to take advantage of this by not having continuing education or license. Mr. Studer stated that he knows who does tele-communication work in his area because he does electrical inspections. Mr. Studer stated that generally 90% of the job is completed and no one available on the job site when an inspection is performed. Mr. Studer stated that it is hard to enforce law because no one is on the job site at the time of inspection. Mr. Osborne stated that generally someone is on a residential job site.

Mr. Vernon inquired if it would mess up the low voltage exemption to say that even though it's below the transformer and Class 2 or 3 it is still required to be inspected. Legal Counsel Dempsey stated that inspections are addressed in the *NEC*. Mr. Osborne stated that there are sections of the code that has never been inspected. Mr. Osborne stated that the "truth being told has really gone beyond".

Meeting Adjournment

Mr. Shelton made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Chairman Archer stated that the next meeting would be held at February 17, 2004 at 9 am. Mr. Pace seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:40 am.

